

REMARKS

Claims 1–7, 9–16 and 18–20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 10 are amended. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found, for example, in the paragraph spanning pages 9 and 10 of the original specification. No new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance in view of at least the following remarks.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives by Examiners Zhang and Zimmerman at the interview held April 30, 2009 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4–7, 10 and 13–16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,707,571 (Kurashina) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,371,670 (Kojo) and U.S. Patent No. 6,027,265 (Parker). Applicants respectfully traverse rejection.

First, as discussed during the April 30, 2009 personal interview, none of the references disclose nor would have rendered obvious, either alone or in combination, "a data table including a correspondence between the external diameter of the cable-like member and a recommended width of the tape-like print medium based on a correlation between an adhesive quality of the tape-like print medium and a flexural rigidity of the cable-like member," as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claim 10.

The Office Action concedes that Kurashina and Kojo do not disclose a recommended width determination system but alleges that Parker cures their deficiency (Office Action, pages 3 and 4). Parker is directed to a printer having a platen for supporting a book binder strip to be printed (Parker, Abstract). Parker discloses that the binder strips 14 are available in various predetermined widths. The particular width for a binder is strip determined by the

thickness of the stack of sheets to be bound (C5:L30–32). Parker discloses that the predetermined widths are "narrow," "medium" and "wide" (C5:L33–34).

The system discussed in Parker merely measures thickness of the stack of sheets to be bound and matches a "narrow," "medium" or "wide" binder strip to the sheets depending on whether the sheets are one of the three widths. The focus of the width determination in Parker is directed towards the proper placement of the text on the binder strip, as Parker discloses that "[i]n order to properly place text to be printed in the binder strip 14, information in the stack of pages to be bound by the strip 14 must be provided" (C30:L60–64). Parker discloses the direct correlation between the width of the binder and the width of the stack of sheets and does not disclose "a correlation between an adhesive quality of the tape-like print medium and a flexural rigidity of the cable-like member," as recited in claim 1 and similarly in claim 10. Thus, as agreed during the April 30, 2009 personal interview, Parker fails to disclose the above recited feature of claims 1 and 10. Accordingly, Parker fails to cure the deficiency of Kurashina in view of Kojo and claims 1 and 10 are patentable over the applied references.

Claims 4–7 and 13–16 are also patentable over the applied references for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 10, from which the claims depend, as well as for the additional features the claims recite. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the above rejection.

Second, the specification sufficiently enables the amendments to claims 1 and 10, specifically the correlation between the adhesive quality of the tape-like print medium and the flexural rigidity of the cable-like member. A skilled artisan could reasonably make the claimed invention based on the disclosure of the specification and information knowing the art without undue experimentation. For example, undue experimentation is not required to determine an adequate correlation between the adhesive quality of the tape-like print medium

and the flexural rigidity of the cable-like member to determine the proper tape widths for the specific cable diameters so that the tape-like print medium is able to stick to the cable-like member without reducing the cable-like members flexural rigidity. As such, the claimed subject matter recited in claims 1-7, 9-16 and 18-20 is sufficiently enabled and satisfies the requirements under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

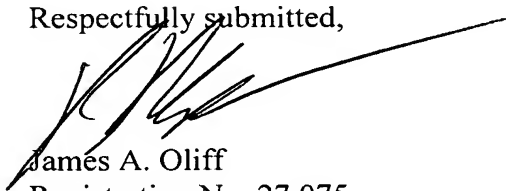
The Office Action rejects claims 2, 3, 11, 12, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kurashina in view of Kojo and Parker and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 4,609,208 (Wrobel) and rejects claims 9 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kurashina in view of Kojo and Parker and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,109,798 (Nunokawa). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

These rejections are based on the allegation that Kurashina in view of Kojo and Parker would have rendered obvious all of the features of claims 1 and 10. Because, as discussed above Kurashina in view of Kojo and Parker would not have rendered obvious all the features of claims 1 and 10, the rejection is improper. Additionally, Wrobel and Nunokawa fail to cure the deficiencies of Kurashina in view of Kojo and Parker. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 8, 2009

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